



Ohio District Bulletin November 2020-21 Edition



**Jennifer Kendo
2020-2021 Governor**

Message from our 2020-2021 Ohio District Governor Jennifer Kendo

Fellow Ohio District Optimists

We conducted a successful 1st Quarter conference and Special Convention October 23 – 24. We had a tremendous attendance with 47 registered attendees and many more who joined the meeting remotely via Zoom. I unveiled the new Ohio District logo and theme of **“Be The Change – Choose Optimism!”**

We elected Greg Griffin of the Centerville Noon Optimist Club as Governor Elect. Greg will serve as Governor of the Great Ohio District in 2021-2022. David Ladd led a touching memorial service remembering those Optimist who passed away this past year. We heard inspirational words from OI Dignitaries including Tracy Huxley OI Vice President, Patsy Garner – OI President Elect and Bob McFadyen honorary Ohio District Optimist. And we received training on the Learning Management System (LMS) from OI LMS Administrator Michelle Turner. Thru raffles, fines, happy bucks and personal donations we raised over \$900 for the Bill O’Neil Scholarship Fund that weekend. It was a fabulous weekend of knowledge sharing, fun and fellowship! Save the date for Feb 5-6, 2021 to join us for the 2nd Quarter conference.

Unfortunately, due to death, Optimists moving and lack of interest we are currently down 16 Optimists in The Great Ohio District. We need new Optimists. Now is the time to add members – just ask! Membership in an Optimist Club is a great opportunity. An opportunity to make new friends, make a difference in the lives of people around us while also improving our own life. Over the years OI has provided incentives that allow prospective new members to try membership at a reduced rate. Now is the time to utilize 3 expiring OI membership programs. They include 30 under 30, First Responders and Recruit-A-Teacher. They all expire December 31, 2020. For only \$30 in OI & District dues for the first year a prospective new member can join your Optimist Club. The time is now – this is your last chance! Drop everything and ask a friend, co-worker, family member or someone who could benefit from Choosing Optimism to join your Optimist Club. And maybe you will change someone’s life. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to add new members at a discounted rate!

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Encouraging all to **“Be The Change and Choose Optimism”!**

Governor Jennifer



DISTRICT HOSPITALITY CHAIR

Responsibilities Include:

- **Having fun and creating a fun environment at District conferences**
- **Coordinating with the Governor the conference theme for decorations, costumes and potential themed food & beverages**
- **Setting up & taking down the hospitality suite at each district conference**
- **Procuring, preparing and serving all food and beverage items in the hospitality suite**
- **The District has budget funds to cover hospitality expenses**
- **Hospitality Room typically open Friday evening, Saturday at end of conference meetings and Saturday evening after dinner**
- **Interested? Please contact Governor Jennifer @ kendolaw@gmail.com**



Be a STAR and **JUST ASK** someone to visit your Optimist Club or Event! Joining an Optimist Club is one the best decisions I ever made!

BE THE CHANGE--CHOOSE OPTIMISM!

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL IS OFFERING SOME SPECIAL FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP RATES, AVAILABLE FOR NEW MEMBERS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

\$30 FOR A MEMBER UNDER THE AGE OF 30 YEARS OLD.

\$30 FOR TEACHERS/EDUCATORS—YOU CAN BE CURRENTLY TEACHING OR RETIRED.

\$30 FOR FIRST RESPONDERS—THIS COVERS A VARIETY OF PROFESSIONS-- EMT, FIREFIGHTER, POLICE, NURSE, DOCTOR, DISPATCH, CASEWORKER, ETC.

These rates are only available October thru December 31, 2020, then these special programs go away. Please share this information with your friends who may qualify to join your Optimist Club under one of these specials. This is a last chance SALE RATE. All new members are welcome! We look forward to adding new members to our clubs. We have loads of fun working together while helping our community. More members help all of us to help more kids. If you have any questions, please contact me via email at sarmstrong2361@gmail.com.

If you need to call me, my cell number is (937) 344-0488.

Yours in Optimism,

Sue Armstrong, Ohio District Membership Chair 2020-2021

Important Upcoming Events and Dates



Oratorical Contest 2021

“Healing the World with Optimism”



The District finals will be held at the 3rd quarter District conference on **Saturday, May 1, 2021**, at the Embassy Suites here in Dublin (World Competition is slated for Saint Louis July 15-17, 2021).

OI awards \$2,500 to the winner with the District adding \$1,000 for a total of \$3,500. Send place from OI receives \$1,500 and the District adds \$500 for a total of \$2,000, and third place receives \$1,000 from OI, \$500 from the District, for a total \$1,500. These additional monies from the District come from the Bill O’Neil Memorial Scholarship fund.

The deadlines for the various contest levels are:

Club Contests: Conducted by March 3, 2021.

Zone Contests: Conducted by March 24, 2021.

Regional Contests: Conducted by April 17, 2021.

Information packets can be requested from Optimist International or can be downloaded from www.ohiodistrictoptimist.org or www.optimist.org. The link leads to an application, brochure, and Club Planning Guide.

I recommend getting started sooner rather than later as it is likely most of your contests will still be virtual via ZOOM.

Region 1: Virtual in 2020 - Prior Contest Venue: Brunswick Municipal Building
4095 Center Road Brunswick, OH 44212

CHAIR: TBD

Zone 3 – Lt Governor Debbie Walsh

Zone 4 – Lt Governor Darrel Basford

Zone 5 – Lt Governor Rob McAndrew

Zone 7 – Lt Governor Chuck Davis

Region 2: Virtual in 2020 – Prior Contest Venue: University of Northwestern Ohio
1441 N. Cable Road (400 Crown Building) Lima, OH 45805

CHAIR: Harry Tolhurst and Ray Able

Zone 1 – Lt Governor Myron Rheaume

Zone 8 – Lt Governor Harry Tolhurst

Zone 9 – Lt Governor Ray Able

Zone 10 – Lt Governor Thomas Kennedy

Zone 12 – Lt Governor Mike McGrew

Region 3: Virtual in 2020 – Prior Contest Venue: Southminster Church

7001 Far Hills Drive Centerville, OH 45459

CHAIR: Jerry Stahley

Zone 11 – Lt Governor Barb Layne

Zone 13 – Lt Governor Sue Labatsky

Zone 14 – Lt Governor Greg Griffin

Zone 15 – Larry Jarvis

At each stage, it's very important that all the paperwork is completed. In order for the scholarships to be processed, I need to submit the following to OI:

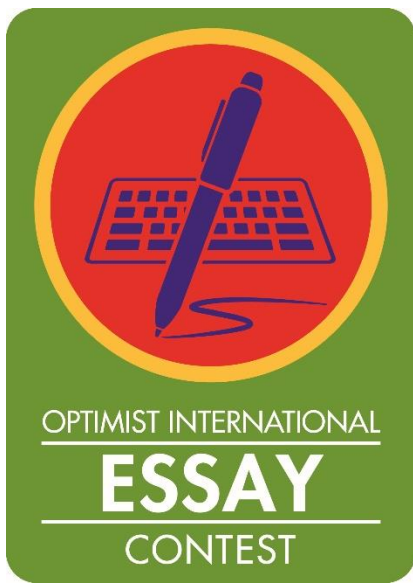
- The Contestant's Application Form for the 2020-2021 Contest
- The Zone/District Regional/District Entry Form which must include the number of contestants that participated in each level of the contest AND the appropriate signatures, including the contestants.'
- The Optimist Regional Information Form from the Regions which will be held in April.
- A Copy of the contestant's birth certificate or passport. No other age verification documents will be accepted.
- A copy of the contestant's Club Contest Evaluation which can be found in the Club Planning Guide.
- A printed copy of the speech.

Debe Dockins, Ohio District Oratorical Chair

588 Shelbourne Lane; Apt 207

Dayton, Ohio 45458

Cell: (937) 266-2331 DebeD87@gmail.com & ddockins@wcpl.lib.oh.us



***2020-2021 Topic:
Reaching Your
Dreams by Choosing
Optimism***

Clubs must submit essays to the district by February 28, so set your submission deadline to allow plenty of time for judging and compiling scores.

Now is a great time to be promoting to students before the busy holidays and semester end/exams.

The Optimist International website has a club planning guide with everything needed to lead a successful essay contest.

My contact information:

Kelly George

311 Pleasant Hill Dr, Centerville 45459

937-581-1494

kdgmegg@me.com

Optimist International Launches Childhood Health and Wellness Matching Grant Program

Is your club looking for new ways to positively impact the lives of children in your community?

If so, check out the new Childhood Health and Wellness (CHW) Program at the following link on the OI website. <https://oifoundation.org/downloads/ChildhoodHealthWellnessGrantApplicationFillable.pdf>

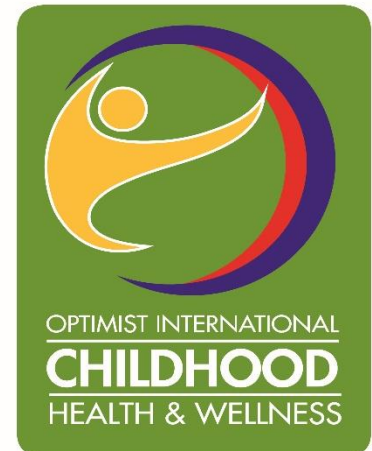
The Childhood Health and Wellness Program is an extension of the Childhood Cancer campaign developed “in response to requests from Optimist Clubs recognizing the broad range of childhood health-related issues.”

This matching grant program will pay 50% of the projects cost, ranging from \$250 - \$1000 in four categories: Healthy Lifestyles (e.g. Physical Fitness, Nutrition), Chronic Diseases (e.g. Childhood Cancer, Juvenile Diabetes, MS, Ronald McDonald House) Mental Health (e.g. Depression, Abuse, Bullying), Disabilities – Physical, Intellectual & Developmental (e.g. Autism, Special Olympics)

To be considered your club must:

1. Identify a new CHW project.
2. Approve project funding.
3. Complete the three-page application.
4. Submit the signed application
by one of the deadlines below to:

*Mail: Optimist International Foundation
Childhood Health and Wellness Matching Grant
4494 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108*



Email: info@oifoundation.org

Fax: 1-314-535-7436

Deadlines: February 28, 2021, May 31, 2021, August 30, 2021

Note: Each club can only submit one application for consideration per Optimist year.

Be the Change. Choose Optimism.

Judy Martinson, Ohio District CHW Chair

Judith.martinson@sbcglobal.net _937-620-4028 (Cell); Home 937-331-8429

**The Great Ohio District
Bill O'Neil Memorial Scholarship Fund**

The Annual Scholarship Fund Goal is **\$4,600.00**

Purpose: The Ohio District adds supplemental scholarship funds to the Optimist International Foundation scholarship awards for the winners of the Ohio District Essay, Oratorical & CCDHH contests.

How Can you Help?

1. Make an individual donation
2. Make a family donation
3. Ask your club to donate
4. Make a Memorial Contribution:
 - a. Remember a loved one
 - b. Remember a deceased member
 - c. Honor a Member of your Club or Community

Notification of Memorial Gifts will be sent. Please include a mailing address for the notification.

Questions? Please contact Tom or Jennifer Kenda @ kendolaw@gmail.com or 937-609-4557 (Tom) 937-469-6048 (Jennifer)

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Bill O'Neil Memorial Scholarship Fund Donation

Name: _____ Donation: \$_____

Club Name: _____ Club #: _____

(Optional) To Honor: _____

(Optional) In Memory of: _____

Please send Notification to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Thank you for your generosity!!

The Great Ohio District is elated to help celebrate the following Club's anniversary date for the Month of November



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Club	City	Charter Date	Years	Club#	Zone
North Broomfield	North Broomfield	11/20/1968	52	24286	4
Wapakoneta Breakfast	Wapakoneta	11/21/1980	40	24041	9
Centerville-South Metro	Centerville	11/29/1988	32	24073	14

As you can see, this is a total of 124 years of serving the young people of the Great Ohio District.

Please extend a Great Ohio District Optimist



to the following thirteen new members, who have joined the Great Ohio District Optimist family in the month of October, 2020

New Member

Club

Sponsored by

Gayle Duling	Bft-Putnam County	Jean Gerderman
Ann Roemer	Lima Shawnee	Sara K. Cardone
Dennis P Faller	Wapakoneta Noon	Ellen Brautigam
Carmen K Sieftring	Covington	Gene Gooding
Greg Fox	Dayton Huber Heights	Steve Siegel
Terry Lawson	Dayton Huber Heights	Mark R Bruns
Ellis Clark	Dayton Huber Heights	Skip Walters
Scott Broering	Vandalia-Butler	Jeff Bardonaro
Justin Evans	Vandalia-Butler	Jeff Bardonaro
Louis Schatzberg	Bellbrook-Sugar Creek	Michael L Cornelius
Dan Thalheimer	Centerville Noon	Joan Cordonnier
Christopher M Newcomb	Conneaut	Deborah A Newcomb
Mamie Toole	Akron Noon	Sierja M Lash

Membership – the backbone of our organization. We need to fill our clubs up with new blood, new ideas, new vigor. We need to grow to enable us to serve more youth.

No NURSING HOME FOR ME!!!!

I'll be checking into a MARRIOTT!

With the average cost for nursing home care being \$275.00 per day, there is a better way when we get old and too feeble . I've already checked on reservations at The FAIRFIELD.

For a combined long term stay discount and senior discount, it's \$79.00 per night for up to two persons(spouse) Breakfast is included, and some have happy hours In the afternoon. That leaves \$196.00 a day for lunch and dinner in any restaurant we want, or room service, laundry, Gratuities and special TV movies. Plus, they provide a spa, swimming pool, a workout room, a lounge and washer dryer, etc.

Most have free toothpaste and razors, and all have free shampoo and soap. \$10 worth of tips a day you'll have the entire staff scrambling to help you. They treat you like a customer, not a patient.

There's a city bus stop out front, and seniors ride free. The handicap bus will also pick you up (if you fake a decent limp). To meet other nice people, call a church bus on Sundays. For a change of scenery, take the airport shuttle bus and eat at one of the nice restaurants there. While you're at the airport, fly somewhere. Otherwise, the cash keeps building up.

It takes months to get into decent nursing homes. Marriott will take your reservation today. And you're not stuck in one place forever -- you can move from Marriott to Marriott, or even from city to city. Want to see Hawaii ? They have COURTYARD there too.

TV broken? Light bulbs need changing? Need a mattress replaced? No problem.. They fix everything, and apologize for the inconvenience.

The Mariott has a night security person and daily room service. The maid checks to see if you are ok. If not, they'll call an ambulance . . .Or the undertaker.

If you fall and break a hip, Medicare will pay for the hip, and Marriott will upgrade you to a suite for the rest of your life.

And no worries about visits from family. They will always be glad to find you, and probably check in for a few days a mini vacation. The grand-kids can use the pool.

What more could I ask for? So, when I reach that golden age, I'll face it with a grin.



From the deck of the Good Ship Darrel,

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Darrel Basford

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